

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4055

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 19, 2022

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McKeon, Assemblywomen Piperno and Eulner**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes New Jersey Ireland Trade Commission in Department of State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly State and Local Government Committee on January 19, 2023, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/22/2023)

1 AN ACT establishing the New Jersey Ireland Trade Commission and
2 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. There is established in, but not of, the Department of
8 State the New Jersey Ireland Trade Commission. The commission
9 shall consist of ¹~~15~~ 23¹ members, to be appointed as follows:

10 ¹~~Two~~ (1) (a) Four¹ members of the Legislature shall be
11 appointed by the President of the Senate, ¹~~neither~~ two¹ of whom
12 shall ¹~~be members of the same political party~~ have current or past
13 involvement in organizations that promote Irish affairs or shall have
14 interest in the well-being of trade relations between New Jersey and
15 Ireland¹; and two members of the Legislature shall be appointed by
16 the ¹~~Speaker of the General Assembly, neither of whom shall be~~
17 ~~members of the same political party~~ Minority Leader of the
18 Senate, both of whom shall have current or past involvement in
19 organizations that promote Irish affairs or shall have interest in the
20 well-being of trade relations between New Jersey and Ireland.

21 (b) Four members of the Legislature shall be appointed by the
22 Speaker of the General Assembly, two of whom shall have current
23 or past involvement in organizations that promote Irish affairs or
24 shall have interest in the well-being of trade relations between New
25 Jersey and Ireland; and two members of the Legislature shall be
26 appointed by the Minority Leader of the General Assembly, both of
27 whom shall have current or past involvement in organizations that
28 promote Irish affairs or shall have interest in the well-being of trade
29 relations between New Jersey and Ireland.

30 (c)¹ The legislative members of the commission shall serve
31 during the two-year legislative term in which the appointments are
32 made.

33 ¹~~(2)~~¹ Eleven members of the commission shall be appointed by
34 the Governor. Six members shall serve for a term of three years
35 and five shall serve for a term of four years. The 11 members thus
36 appointed shall include at least one representative from: a ¹~~State~~
37 public¹ institution of higher education; the New Jersey Chamber of
38 Commerce, or its successor organization; and at least two public
39 members representing Irish American communities neither of whom
40 shall be members of the same political party.

41 b. All appointments shall be made no later than 90 days
42 following the day of enactment of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
43 before the Legislature as this bill). A vacancy in the membership of

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ASL committee amendments adopted January 19, 2023.

1 the commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original
2 appointment was made.

3 c. Members of the commission shall serve without
4 compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses actually incurred
5 in the performance of their duties, within the limit of funds
6 appropriated to the commission or otherwise made available to it
7 for its purposes.

8 d. The commission shall meet and hold hearings at the places it
9 designates throughout the State.

10

11 2. The ¹~~【Governor】~~ President of the Senate¹ shall designate
12 ¹~~【a chairperson or】~~ two¹ co-chairpersons from among the
13 ¹~~【members of the commission, who shall serve in that capacity at~~
14 ~~the pleasure of the Governor. The chairperson or co-chairpersons,~~
15 ~~as appropriate, may appoint from among the commission members~~
16 ~~subcommittees and subcommittee chairpersons at their discretion.】~~
17 President's appointments, one each from the majority and minority
18 party; and the Speaker of the General Assembly shall designate two
19 co-chairpersons from among the Speaker's appointments, one each
20 from the majority and minority party.¹ A majority of the members
21 of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of
22 the business of the commission.

23

24 3. a. The purpose of the New Jersey Ireland Trade
25 Commission shall be to:

26 (1) advance bilateral trade and investment between New Jersey
27 and Ireland;

28 (2) initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to
29 New Jersey and Ireland;

30 (3) promote business and academic exchanges between New
31 Jersey and Ireland;

32 (4) encourage mutual economic support between New Jersey
33 and Ireland;

34 (5) encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of New
35 Jersey and Ireland; and

36 (6) address such other issues as determined by the commission.

37 b. The commission shall report its findings, results, and
38 recommendations to the Governor, and the Legislature pursuant to
39 section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), within one year of its
40 initial organizational meeting and by February 1st of each
41 succeeding year for the activities of the preceding calendar year.
42 The report shall be in writing and include recommendations as
43 deemed appropriate by the commission to effectuate its purpose, as
44 provided by this section.

45

46 4. The New Jersey Ireland Trade Commission shall be
47 authorized to raise funds, through direct solicitation or other
48 fundraising events, alone, or with other groups, and accept gifts,

1 grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations,
2 governmental agencies, and public and private organizations and
3 institutions, to defray the commission's administrative expenses and
4 to carry out its purposes as set forth in P.L. , c. (C.)
5 (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The funds, gifts,
6 grants, or bequests received pursuant to this section shall be
7 deposited in an account in the Department of the Treasury and
8 allocated and annually appropriated to the Department of State to
9 defray the commission's administrative expenses and carry out its
10 purposes.

11

12 5. This act shall take effect immediately.